

December 1, 2009

Chief's Corner



Welcome to Miami Beach Police Department's inaugural issue of "The Beat" our new monthly newsletter.

As proven throughout our history, we are committed to attaining and maintaining partnerships with residents and businesses in our city. Naturally, I am excited about having another forum through which we can continue this effort and which we can keep you updated on community, and police issues, crime trends, and department initiatives.

Each future issue of "The Beat" will provide easy to implement crime prevention tips which, if employed, can greatly reduce your chance of being victimized. With this in mind, we have appropriately focused our first issue on how to safely shop this holiday season.

Wishing you and your family a safe, happy and peaceful holiday.

Carlos E. Noriega,

Chief of Police

The Beat



Out Shopping for the Holidays? So are the Thieves.

The Holiday season is upon us already! With all of the shopping going on, it's important to take extra precautions to protect our valuables. Remember, out of sight, out of mind. If you have more than one store to visit, please lock your purchases in the trunk of your car, before you head off to your next destination.

Think about taking an extra trip home if you have too many items. Do not carry wallets in back pockets. If you carry a purse **DO NOT** wrap it around your arms, shoulder or neck, you could risk injury from a would-be snatcher. Do not carry a large amount of cash. Park in well lit areas and

have your keys ready when heading back to your car. Check your back seat before getting in your car. If you think you are being followed, **DO NOT** go home; drive to a police station, gas station or a well lit area where someone can help you.

Going away for the holidays? Ask a neighbor to watch your home, collect your mail and newspapers or have your deliveries stopped. Use timers for your lights to give the appearance someone is home. Have a neighbor park in your driveway. **DO NOT** leave keys hidden on your property; leave it with someone you trust. Make copies of your itinerary, plane

tickets, passports, credit cards and traveler's checks. Leave a copy of these items with a family member or friend and one in your hotel/suitcase for easy access in case the originals are stolen / lost.

After the holidays, **DO NOT** advertise gifts received by leaving the boxes intact for garbage collection. Destroy boxes and place them in garbage bags.

The Miami Beach Police Department would like to wish our Residents, Businesses and Visitors a happy, safe and peaceful holiday season.

End of the year initiative; Operation Drop Zone

The department has initiated Operation Drop Zone, which is a collaborated effort to reduce crime in the city. This will be accomplished a number of ways; the first is mere officer presence, which will send a message to the criminal element to leave. Additionally, some areas will see an enforcement of laws (criminal and traffic), as well as city and county codes. The final aspect will target troubled locations

throughout the city.

The success of Operation Drop Zone hinges on the department working as a whole. Crime Analysts and employees working the streets will provide Drop Zone supervisors with information about troubled areas. The supervisors will then deploy officers assigned to this detail to the specified areas to address the issues identified.

At this time Operation Drop Zone will be in affect until the end of December.

Mark Your Calendars

Art Basel	12/03/09
Orange Bowl	01/05/10
Art Deco	01/15/10
Pro Bowl	01/31/10
Super Bowl	02/07/10

Mission Statement

Celebrate New Years Safely

Every year, we read about things that happen to people celebrating on New Year's Eve, but it doesn't have to happen to you if you follow some simple tips. Of course, the most common sense one is **DO NOT** drink and drive. Fireworks it seems are another thing that is associated with New Year's Eve. Always have a bucket of water on hand in case something goes wrong. Remember pets are scared of loud noises and may react differently. Boating has become a bigger part of New Year's. Accidents on boats can be more deadly than on land; remember to wear life vests, especially if drinking.

Celebrating at home? Remember to keep an eye on the little ones, especially if having a party and drinking is involved. No firing of guns; keep in mind, *"What goes up, must come down"*.

New Year's Eve is a time for celebration, but you need to follow proper safety tips to avoid tragedy from occurring.

Miami Beach Law Enforcement Professionals deliver policing excellence through proactive services and interactions, providing a safe environment to all who live work and play in our vibrant tropical historic community

CORE VALUES

Honor, Courage and Integrity

Safe Community Walk; Taking a Bite out of Crime

In keeping with October as the National Celebrating Safe Community Month and promoting the City's slogan of "One Team, One City", MBPD, along with Public Works, Homeless Outreach, and Sanitation joined by members of the community walked from the Police Station at 11 Street and Washington Avenue to 9

Street and Meridian Avenue. Chief Carlos Noriega met with several members of the community and received residents' input about safety along the way.

This event was a success. If you would like to organize a walk in your neighborhood, please contact your Neighborhood Resource Officer;



Officer D. Doty (South District), Officer B Songdahl (Middle District), and Officer J. Blanco (North District).

MIAMI BEACH

POLICE

Annual Toy Drive

1100 Washington Avenue
Miami Beach, FL 33139
305.673.7900

Administered by:
Juan F. Sanchez, Detective
Office of Media Relations
305.673.7383

**We are on the
web!
MiamiBeachfl.gov**

Since 1982, Miami Beach Police Department has provided holiday gifts to needy children in our city. This year's Holiday Toy Drive will occur on Saturday, December 19, 2009 in the Police Department's Community Room. To be eligible to receive a holiday toy, children must be pre-registered. Registration sessions are currently underway Monday through Friday, thru December 4, 8 am to 12 pm. There will be a weekend registration on Saturday, December 5 from 8 am to 12 pm in the lobby of the police station.

The following documents are required at the time of registration: Proof of residency (utility

bill), Florida Driver's License or Florida Picture ID, original or copy of birth certificate for each child being registered, current proof of government assistance (i.e., food stamps, SSI, WIC or unemployment documents).

This is a department wide effort, which includes volunteers to purchase the toys and assist handing them put.

Santa Claus as always will make an appearance. McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog will also appear. Past surprise guests have included Billy the Marlin and Miami Heat's mascot Bernie.

Burger King has always been on hand to provide a light snack to the kids.

PAL Kids and Miami Beach Police Explorers are also a part of this experience.

